

desire to have this issue considered, finding a time which was most satisfactory to all involved on both sides of the aisle to have it considered. And it is our intent to have ample time for debate and for amendments to be offered and voted on.

Mr. MCCAIN. I thank the majority leader.

This is a time now where we will be able to have a legitimate amending process. Amendments to perfect the legislation will be placed on the calendar by the close of business on September 14 so that we can improve or not improve. However, the legislative process will move forward, as we normally do on pieces of legislation before the body, with the exception, of course, that respecting the fact that the Senate does act with 60 votes to cut off debate, if Senator FEINGOLD and I fail to get 60 votes, then there is no sense in prolonging the debate or the discussion, including that we would not raise the issue again during the 106th Congress. We would have debates and amendments and votes on those amendments.

Mr. LOTT. Ordinarily, the way we do these unanimous consent agreements, I would have required the bill to be filed immediately after this unanimous consent agreement. But as the Senator indicated, that is over 2 months away and changes might be necessary. But I think it is also important for those who might not agree with the content of this bill to have ample time to see what the bill is going to be and to prepare amendments on the other side. I thought the September 14 day was a reasonable time.

Mr. MCCAIN. If the majority leader will agree, for the remainder of the first session, we would not bring it up.

Mr. LOTT. I certainly hope not.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I will not object. I ask the majority leader if he will yield for a moment.

Mr. LOTT. I am glad to yield to the Senator for a question.

Mr. McCONNELL. Let me say to the Senator from Arizona and the majority leader that I think this is a fair compromise. It would give the Senator from Arizona and the Senator from Wisconsin, as well as others who historically have been on the other side of this issue, an opportunity to offer amendments. It also will give us an opportunity, as the Senator from Arizona has indicated, to know what bill will be called up for debate on September 14. So I think this is a reasonable way to dispose of this issue that is fair to everyone, and it gives us an opportunity to proceed with the Senate's much more important business between now and the August recess.

I thank the majority leader for his good work on this, and I look forward to the debate later this year.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I thank the

majority leader for his cooperation on this. I will ask a brief question. I want it to be absolutely clear in the record that the agreement as it reads involves a limitation with regard to the first session of the 106th Congress, but that we are not precluded in any way from raising this issue again in the second session of the 106th Congress.

Mr. LOTT. You are not. I am sure you would prefer to have this matter concluded in the first session.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Yes, absolutely, and there are other things on which I would like to be working.

That is a good lead-in for my comments on this issue. Again, I thank the majority leader and the Senator from Kentucky for their remarks. I especially thank the Senator from Arizona for his tremendous persistence on this issue and especially in working out this agreement in the middle of a very busy legislative schedule that I know we have for the rest of the year.

This agreement involves a debate to come up by October 12. It is later than I would have wanted. I understand we have had a few other things going on, including an impeachment trial, the war in Kosovo, and so on, but it is essential that this matter be seriously considered. I hope it is resolved and that we pass legislation before the end of this year. In any event, we have to bring it up.

The word "amendments" is critical in this agreement. We have to have a real amending process. We have not had that yet on campaign finance reform. At no point, since I have been working on the McCain-Feingold bill, have we ever had a time when Senators could offer their amendments about what they care about. Somehow, the process has always been truncated, and you can blame either side. Obviously, I have my view of it. But to me this agreement means that we will not again have a one-cloture-vote-and-we-are-done process. We are going to have real amendments, real debate, and a real discussion. If that transpires, I have a feeling we will have an outcome that, in my view, can lead to 60 or 70 votes, something on which Members on both sides can agree. That is my goal, and I think that is the goal of my colleague from Arizona.

I think it is very important to stay in touch with what happened in the other body. They have passed this legislation. A majority of Members of both Houses of the Congress are for this, and the President is ready to sign it.

I think it is important to make those points. Although it has its limitations, this can be the beginning of truly reaching some kind of an agreement in this House to do something about the incredible explosion of soft money that has tainted our democracy.

So, again, I thank the majority leader, and I am looking forward to this process.

Mrs. BOXER. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President, I want to say to my friends, you are terrific on this issue, and I appreciate what you have done. We got word from Senator LEVIN that he wants to see this agreement. He has asked if we would object at this point. He hasn't yet seen it. So I will be asking that this be put aside, or I will have to object on his behalf until he sees this.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, we have a second unanimous consent request that I think has been agreed to with regard to the intelligence authorization bill, so the Senate can go forward.

First of all, in view of the request that was made and the potential objection that I assume there will not be, I will withdraw that unanimous consent request at this time and then I will propound this request. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to H.R. 1555.

I further ask consent that following the offering of the amendment by Senator KYL as provided for in the consent agreement on May 27, there be up to nine relevant second-degree amendments in order for each leader, or their designees, and an additional amendment to be offered by the managers to include agreed-upon amendments.

I further ask consent that the listed first-degree amendments noted below also be relevant and subject to relevant second-degree amendments: Senator TORRICELLI, with regard to funding disclosure; Senator MOYNIHAN, regarding declassification; Senator GRAHAM of Florida, relevant amendment; Senator FEINSTEIN, regarding the drug czar; Senator SMITH of New Hampshire regarding intelligence listing; again, Senator SMITH of New Hampshire, regarding intelligence declassification.

I further ask consent that following the disposition of the amendments, the bill be advanced to third reading and passage occur, all without any intervening action or debate, and no motions to commit or recommit be in order.

Mr. MCCAIN. Reserving the right to object, I deeply regret this, but Senator LEVIN is on the floor right now. I hope we can come to an agreement on whether or not he would object to that unanimous consent agreement. I would like to finish it. I will yield to him at this time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I thank my good friend from Arizona. I haven't had a chance to read it. I would appreciate a couple more moments to read this UC.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I object at this time, until we get this.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to Alexis Rebane during today's debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be able to speak as in morning business on another subject.

Mr. McCAIN. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

In my capacity as a Senator, the Chair suggests the absence of a quorum.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from California be allowed to proceed while we are awaiting final confirmation on the unanimous consent request. She indicated very graciously that the minute we get ready to go on that she will yield the floor. With that understanding, I ask that she be allowed to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from California is recognized.

THE CONSERVATION AND REINVESTMENT ACT

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am so grateful to the majority leader. This morning there was, I thought, a very good presentation by several colleagues concerning S. 25, the Murkowski-Landrieu bill. This legislation, which is supported by a number of my colleagues, is called the Conservation and Reinvestment Act.

I want to say that is a wonderful title because it implies that we are going to conserve something and that we are going to reinvest money to make our environment better.

It is very tempting when you first look at the bill to say this is an excellent bill. But as you get into the bill, and as you listen to the remarks of my colleagues who are for it, you basically realize that it does basically one thing and one thing only; that is, it encourages more offshore oil drilling on Fed-

eral lands because it makes the revenues States receive dependent upon how much offshore oil drilling they engage in off their coast.

What it means for States such as California that protect its coastline by restricting offshore oil drilling, is that there will be less funding for conservation, and States that encourage offshore oil drilling, which I believe depletes the environment, will be rewarded by far more funds. States that have absolutely no offshore drilling and those that are landlocked also do not benefit from this bill.

While purporting to simply provide guaranteed funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, S. 25 distorts the fundamental principle behind the establishment of the Act.

The original idea behind it is to purchase beautiful lands for future generations.

When I ask colleagues if, in fact, S. 25 encourages offshore oil drilling—they say, no; we don't. But yet if you listened to Senator MURKOWSKI's comments on the floor today, you will hear something different. This is what he said about the bill, S. 25:

In order to have a successful Conservation and Reinvestment act, we've got to have a continuation of OCS revenues occurring off the shores of some of our States."

He went on to say:

Support for this legislation is related, to some extent, by those States that see an opportunity to generate a source of revenue.

And continued to say:

In order for it to be successful, we have to have and encourage offshore revenue sharing.

Clearly, what Senator MURKOWSKI is saying about S. 25 is the truth. That is, if a State wants to receive more funds, they should allow and promote more offshore oil drilling off their coasts.

I come from a State that treasures its coastline and knows that the impact of offshore oil drilling is devastating. I don't think we should be punished because we stand strong in our State in a very bipartisan way, to say we don't want this impact.

I don't believe S. 25 is a conservation bill. I believe the principal goal is to encourage more offshore oil drilling, and thereby bring about more destruction to the environment—not less destruction.

States that have active drilling programs will be the primary benefactors. There is no question about it. Alaska, Texas, and Louisiana get 50 percent of the money while the entire Nation will lose as we deplete a beautiful federal publicly-owned natural resource; namely, our ocean.

This doesn't seem fair. This is a national resources owned by the American people. As such revenue from this resource must be shared throughout our nation.

States that are protecting their resource and don't have offshore oil drill-

ing, as well as States that are landlocked, will lose under S. 25.

I introduced a bill that really does fulfill our commitment to the preservation of our natural resources. Congressman George Miller introduced the companion bill in the House. The bill we introduced, the Resources 2000 Act, has a number of fine cosponsors. In fact, 37 states would benefit more from the funding distribution under Resources 2000 than in S. 25.

I hope colleagues will look at the Resources 2000 bill, which has the support of over 200 environmental organizations.

Those on my bill include Senators DIANNE FEINSTEIN, PAUL SARBANES, CHUCK SCHUMER, FRANK LAUTENBERG, PAUL WELLSTONE, TED KENNEDY, JOE BIDEN, BARBARA MIKULSKI, BOB TORRICELLI, and JOHN KERRY. We have more coming.

We have a national resource—our oceans. We destroy that resource when we drill for oil.

Frankly, the amount of oil that is there isn't worth all the destruction that follows. However, if a State wants to do this, that is their option.

But I don't think they should get rewarded more because they do not mind destroying their coast. States that care about their coast and protect and defend it with laws and coastal zone management plans are penalized under S. 25.

In 1965, Congress established the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Congress decided that as we deplete one of our nation's natural non-resources, we should invest that money into protecting and preserving our nation's renewable resources. The Act required that we take the revenue from offshore oil drilling and put that money into purchasing critical lands.

They take the money and they repair. They repair, and they buy beautiful tracts of land to save it in perpetuity. Part of that money is supposed to be for historic preservation, which we haven't fully funded either.

S. 25 flies in the face of the principal purpose of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Money distributed through S. 25 does not have to go for environmental purposes. S. 25 says to the States: You don't have to use the funds you are getting for the environment. In fact, money could be used to fund environmentally destructive activities, such as road building.

Many of my colleagues have stated that revenue generated from the Outer Continental Shelf should be treated similar to revenue from on-shore drilling. Let's be clear: the OCS land is unique. It is federal land, and federal land only. It is not within the boundaries of any state, unlike on-shore areas.